

FOREHOE and HENSTEAD  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and the

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

for

1966.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Forehoe and Henstead Rural District Council

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THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1966

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report on the state of the public health in this District for the year ended 31st. December, 1966.

INTRODUCTION

The extent to which climatic factors have an effect on the public health of a locality is undefined. Certainly those suffering from various chronic rheumatic and respiratory disorders are commonly of the opinion that their health is closely related to the weather. In the wider view it may even be held that the psychological effect of, say, a fine summer is of importance in the prevention and treatment of the stress illnesses which are increasingly common in the modern world. For this reason it has for long been the practice to include a short record of the year's weather in annual reports to your Council although, of 1966, this record must be generally gloomy. Total rainfall was little over average but this was not the impression left by continuing damp and cloudy overcast. Total sunshine was, in fact, some 250 hours less than average. The second half of winter was not unduly severe although January was cold and there was some heavy snow. An unusually cold spell in mid April gave way to a good May in which sunshine and temperature were up to average. June, July and August were dull and wet but late holidaymakers enjoyed a dry and warm September. In October the gloom returned and cloud and light rain characterised the remainder of the year.

The writing of the annual report necessarily enforces a pause for reflection on past progress - or lack of it - and must also encourage a forward look into the future. This is of special interest at the present time because public health practice is in a period either of run-down or of change and it is not yet clear which will be the case. The old public health concept of safeguarding the people from a hostile environment is becoming outdated. The people's health is already less threatened by the environment than by the un wisdom of the modern way of life and in each successive year the changing emphasis becomes more apparent. If it is considered that the public health service has mandate only to influence the environment and not to influence the people then, indeed, its work is on the decline but if a broader view is taken then the problems awaiting

solution are at least as great as any faced in the whole history of public health work in this country. Probably the greatest of the problems is that of coronary artery disease and the 1965 figure of 113,000 deaths in England and Wales from this cause was the highest ever. The number for 1966 is not yet available but there is no reason to suppose that it will indicate that the message of healthy living is beginning to be heard. The 'happy savage' does not suffer from coronary disease but it would be unrealistic to expect western society to live his life in order to avoid this modern scourge. Perhaps it will be held that the disease is part of the price of civilisation and that it must be accepted with resignation, at least until someone in a laboratory makes a discovery, but it is hoped that the public will before then come to accept the idea of modifying its mode of life in the interests of good health. This seems a pipe dream but there is hope in the ease with which the 'ex-coronary' patient so often succeeds in reducing weight, in giving up smoking, in making time for suitable exercise and, above all, in learning to relax. Unfortunately this transformation in attitude requires an initial heart attack (because it is human to think that such things always happen to other people) and about a quarter of those attacked are given no opportunity of reform. Recent thought has been given to identifying healthy individuals who are in special danger of coronary artery disease by clinical and biochemical means. If such persons were induced to modify their way of life to no greater extent than to reduce weight and give up smoking it is probable that a considerable reduction in the disease would result, particularly among the middle aged where its social effects are most profound. Perhaps progress will be made in this limited field of persuading people at special risk but whether limited or directed at the whole population, any such effort is health education and this, despite its unfortunate public image and its school-roomish title, is therefore the key (and perhaps the only key) to continuing improvement in the nation's health. Health education effort at the local level rarely produces immediate and visible results and therefore seems unrewarding but such effort may nevertheless prove vital to success in the long term because campaigns mounted at a more remote level and using all the powerful and expensive propaganda weapons of the mass media have been shown to have only a temporary effect. Perhaps the only effective arrangement will turn out to be 'grass root' activity by the public health authorities acting in co-ordination through and with the support of the County. Thus ideas would interchange, problems would be resolved, enthusiasm would be stimulated and, where necessary, funds would be available for projects beyond the financial scope of the district.

The question perhaps most frequently put to the writer is whether the constantly increasing use of pesticides is a hazard to health? Since the matter is therefore much in the public mind it may be well to say something about it in this report. The first of the modern pesticides, D.D.T., has been in use for about 20 years and for most of the time exposure to this and subsequent pesticides has been inevitable. They are present in minute quantity in public water supplies and even in rain and air; and they are present in food in



varying quantities. It happens that certain of these substances are absorbed by the body and stored in fat so that, it is possible to measure human exposure by measuring the quantity of pesticide residue in body fat. This has been done regularly for a number of years and the present position in this country is that, firstly, there has been little increase in exposure in the last five years and, secondly, that similar investigations in certain other countries have indicated a much higher level of exposure. Present evidence, which is based on an experience of twenty years, suggests that the use of pesticides need cause no anxiety about human health but obviously this is an area in which complacency would be most ill advised and the matter is kept under constant review.

From the earliest days of interest in public health and up to the establishment of food rationing in the last war, the term 'malnutrition' implied a shortage of essential nutrients in the diet and was associated with an under-weight infant or child. Such malnutrition has only occurred in sporadic cases in the last quarter of a century but the associated folk-lore has persisted and the fat baby is still able to win baby contests and the overweight of the school child is regarded with parental approbation whilst the lean and wiry child is presented to school medical officers by anxious parents as being obviously deficient in some respect. In fact malnutrition (in this country) should now be regarded as synonymous with over nutrition and since weight control is now recognised as closely related to healthy living in adult life, the importance of avoiding bad dietary habits in childhood is obvious. The sweet eating habit, so dear to English children and to many of their parents, is unfortunate. Whatever the infinite variety in which the sugar is presented, it remains unchanged in its power to wreck teeth and to cause the laying down of fat without conferring any nutritional benefit. Whether the indictment against sugar is now complete is very doubtful and medical thought is already grouping a variety of illnesses, including coronary thrombosis and diabetes, as the saccharine diseases which have in common that they are possibly related to the over consumption of sugar. Whatever may come of this in the light of further research there is already ample reason for trying to bring up children on rather less carbohydrate and a great deal less refined sugar.

Despite the foregoing references to some of the shortcomings in the state of the public health today, it is nevertheless my pleasant duty to report that Forehoe and Henstead enjoyed a satisfactory year in terms of health in 1966. The corrected death rate reached the low figure of 7.3 deaths per thousand population (which contrasts with a national rate of 11.7) and the statistics relating to maternal and child care were generally satisfactory. Infectious disease presented no important problem beyond a satisfactorily contained outbreak of mild bacillary dysentery.

## STAFF

Dr. Irene Green retired on 30th. September, 1966 having served as your Medical Officer of Health for nineteen years. Dr. D.F.Hadman was appointed to succeed her as from 1st. October.

Staff changes in the public health inspectorate are recorded in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector but a comment on the training of pupil inspectors may be appropriate. There is a serious national shortage of junior officers and it is therefore desirable that authorities should make provision for the future by employing one or more pupils. You, of course, have such an employee, engaged on a London Course, and he embarked on his final year of study in 1966. However, in the early part of the year the City College invited nominations for a local course but subsequently abandoned the project for want of support. It is hoped that any future initiative will prove more successful.

Your medical officer attended the following conferences during the year :-

- 4th. January - A Symposium on Sanitation in Primary Schools arranged by the Council of British Ceramic Sanitaryware Manufacturers. Dr. Green spoke on 'Toilet Hygiene from the Earliest Years'.
- 26th. January - Conference on Food Hygiene arranged by the Central Council for Health Education.
- 25th. to 29th. April - Royal Society of Health Congress, Blackpool.
- 28th. June - East Anglia Home Safety Council (Area 15). The inaugural meeting in Norwich.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### (a) General

The following data, with the exception of the last paragraph on road injuries, is supplied by the Registrar General. By 'correcting' the birth and death rates to allow for the age structure of Forehoe and Henstead compared with the rest of the country, and by treating all the district rates with the reservation due to information based on small numbers, it is possible to reach conclusions about the state of health of the District.

### (b) Population

The mid-year population of Forehoe and Henstead in 1966 was estimated at 30,390, this being based on the 1961 Census figure as

modified by births and deaths and by the estimate of movement into and out of the District made annually by your officers to the Registrar-General. In 1966 there was a natural increase (i.e. excess of births over deaths) of 15.7 and a migratory increase of 783 in the population.

#### (c) Births

Five hundred and twelve births (262 boys and 250 girls) were registered in 1966, of which 23 were illegitimate. The crude birth rate was therefore 16.8 live births per thousand population and the corrected rate was 17.1 per thousand. This compares with the high 1965 corrected rate of 19.6 and a 1966 England and Wales rate of 17.7 per thousand population.

Twenty seven premature babies were born and all but one survived - a record reflecting credit on the zeal of the professional staff and the sound competence of the mothers.

#### (d) Stillbirths

Seventeen were notified giving a stillbirth rate of 32.0 stillbirths per 1,000 total births and this compares with the England and Wales figure for the year of 15.4 Table 9 lists the causes of these stillbirths.

#### (e) Infant Mortality

Seven children died in infancy during 1966 and the causes are listed in Table 10. The infant mortality rate was therefore 13.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births and this compares with a national rate of 18.9 deaths which was the lowest ever recorded.

#### (f) Perinatal Mortality

This is the statistic which takes into account both stillbirths and infant deaths in the first week of life. It is thus a better index to the immediate outcome of pregnancy than either the stillbirth rate or the early neonatal mortality rate (deaths in the first week of life) taken alone, because it is often fortuitous whether an infant with a serious congenital abnormality is still-born or survives for a short time after birth. The perinatal rate for Forehoe and Henstead in 1966 was 35.9 stillbirths and neonatal deaths per 1,000 total births whilst the corresponding national figure was 26.3 deaths per 1,000 births. In view of the small numbers on which the district rate is based the difference is not, of course, significant.

#### (g) Deaths

Deaths totalled 355 of which 172 were male and 183 female. The crude death rate was 11.7 deaths per 1,000 population and the corrected rate 7.3 This may be compared with an England and Wales rate of 11.7 deaths per 1,000 population.



Table 11 shows that 201 of the deaths occurred at the age of 75 years or more, a proportion of 57% which is an extremely satisfactory figure, and the average age at death was 71.0 years. However, despite this satisfaction, it remains necessary to draw attention to the total of 16 deaths between the ages of 1 and 45 years. Deaths of children and younger people in this age range have been referred to as 'life shorteners' and reported annually since 1955. The average number of deaths has been 9 and therefore 1966 was a bad year in this respect. The sixteen deaths included four from cancer, three from coronary disease, one from a motor cycling accident, two from other accidents and two from suicide.

#### (h) Road Injuries Data

The following details of road accidents are made available by the Chief Constable. The corresponding figures for 1965 are in brackets.

	Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly injured
Drivers	4 (2)	29 (16)	57 (43)
Passengers	- (-)	30 (11)	57 (42)
Pedestrians (under 15)	- (1)	5 (3)	4 (4)
Pedestrians (15 and over)	- (1)	2 (6)	7 (11)
Motor Cyclists	2 (2)	16 (19)	19 (25)
Pillion Passengers	- (-)	2 (6)	2 (3)
Pedal Cyclists (under 15)	- (-)	3 (2)	12 (5)
Pedal Cyclists (15 and over)	2 (1)	4 (8)	2 (12)
Totals :	8 (7)	91 (71)	160 (145)

It is unfortunately apparent that road safety propaganda has not yet had any significant effect on the behaviour of road users.

#### COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Table 15 lists the notifications of infectious disease in the last five years. There were 346 cases in 1966, a high figure, but 266 of these were due to MEASLES which was present in the district throughout the year but was epidemic at the end of the first quarter. Vaccination against measles was practised only on a very small scale.

Thirty seven cases of BACILLARY DYSENTERY were notified, all of the mild Sonnei type, and 25 of them occurred in a sharp outbreak in Costessey in March and April. A small outbreak in



Cringleford in June together with a few sporadic cases accounted for the remainder. The 25 notified cases at Costessey were but the tip of the iceberg and intensive investigation by officers of the Public Health Department revealed a total of 174 cases in 113 households. The outbreak centred on the infants' school but pre-school and junior school children were also involved. The occurrence of dysentery in schools has always been countered by rigorous exclusion of both cases and contacts. However, there has recently been new thought on the matter and this was put into practice at Costessey with remarkable success. School contacts were not excluded unless they had symptoms and cases were allowed back to school after one negative specimen provided they were well. Meanwhile, rigorous hygiene measures were instituted at the schools consisting, in general, of hand washing and frequent disinfection of potentially contaminated surfaces such as lavatory door handles.

TUBERCULOSIS was notified on six occasions. Four of the cases were pulmonary, being men of 19, 59, 64 and 75 years, and two were non-pulmonary, being a man of 36 with a spinal infection and a girl of 14 with a tuberculous kidney.

It will be known that an anti-tuberculous vaccine, B.C.G. is offered to all school children at 13 years who have not already gained a degree of natural immunity by exposure to the disease. A preliminary skin test is used to identify this group and the proportion of children with a positive skin test is therefore some index of the extent of the disease in the area. The results of this test at the four Forehoe and Henstead secondary schools are shown in Table 17 and the percentage of positive reactors is low at three of the schools. The position at Wymondham College is being investigated but it is probable that the higher figure is related to the number of children who have lived abroad and who usually show a positive reaction.

In a farming area the zoonoses or diseases of animals transmissible to man are of special interest. BRUCELLOSIS which presents as contagious abortion in cattle was the subject of much discussion during the year and a point has now been reached at which virtually all interested parties recognize the great waste, in terms of farming economy, which the infection causes and are agreed that eradication is overdue. A pilot eradication scheme was being mounted at the close of the year and will start on a voluntary basis. This is a welcome step but even if a total eradication scheme was already launched it would not merit special plaudit since several of the major countries of Europe have already succeeded in eliminating brucellosis. In fact only one milk sample from a Forehoe and Henstead herd was found to contain brucella germs during 1966. The milk from this herd is sent for pasteurisation before sale and thus no public health problem presented.

No case of ANTHRAX, another important zoonosis, was reported during the year but there were several instances of SALMONELLA infection in calves. Salmonella germs, of which there are very many different types, are the most common cause of food poisoning in man. They are primarily a germ parasite of animals, especially calves, and if the animal reservoir did not exist then human infection would cease. In fact, the effective animal reservoir has probably increased in recent years and the responsibility may lie in new methods of animal commerce. Calves are supplied by dealers to all parts of the country and an infected calf herd may therefore disseminate the infection widely. Contamination of transport vehicles by scouring animals may then, in the absence of an adequate vehicle cleansing system, lead to further spread to other herds. A particular problem arises from the practice of consigning calves not direct to a specific buyer but to the market-place where the animals may infect or be infected. If the price is right the calves are sold but if not they are moved on to other markets. Each time the infected animal has opportunity of transmitting its infection and the healthy calf, susceptible by stress and exposed to salmonellosis, may acquire the infection. Four cases of calf infection were notified during the year and there was one case of human salmonella food poisoning. One of the cases of animal infection occurred on a farm producing milk for sale untreated. Very careful investigation was therefore necessary.

SCABIES and HEAD INFESTATION occurred more than once in 1966 and furnished further evidence that standards of personal hygiene, which have been assumed to have risen steadily with the increasing standard of education, may, for the time being, have slipped a little. A proportion of young people pass through a phase in which scruffiness is the correct thing and this facet of the modern human behaviour pattern is having a recognizable, though not very important, effect on the public health.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

The following paragraphs do not provide a full account of this broad subject but full details may be found in the attached reports of the Engineer and the Chief Public Health Inspector.

##### (a) Housing (See Tables 18-21)

Private enterprise built 365 dwellings in 1966 and so the building boom of the last five years seems to have levelled off following the 1965 peak of 403 new homes. Council had a relatively lean building year but completed 30 houses.

Further progress was made in dealing with unfit property. At the time of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act of 1954 a return was made to the Ministry in which it was estimated there were 500

houses in the District 'unfit and incapable of being made fit at reasonable cost' and Council was requested to mount a 20 year programme to deal with the problem. Since then 326 properties have been dealt with (187 demolition orders and 139 undertakings) and a number of informal demolitions have also been made. These figures indicate that progress has been well up to expectation.

Progress was also made in modernising the large number of pre-war Council houses without waterborne sanitation and 86 were dealt with during the year. However, there remained 446 properties neither modernised nor under active planning thereto and this does seem to be an area in which Council may feel that more should be done as a matter of urgent priority.

Publication of the 1966 Sample Census Report has provided evidence of continuing improvement in housing standards in the District since the last full Census in 1961. The following figures of the percentage of houses without various amenities is interesting:-

	Percentage of houses WITHOUT			Percentage of houses WITH
	Hot tap	Fixed bath	Waterborne Sanitation	all three amenities
Forehoe & Henstead 1961	38.9	36.1	33.3	57.9
Forehoe & Henstead 1966	19.8	20.9	13.7	74.1
All Norfolk Rural Districts 1966	24.3	25.6	18.2	68.0

#### (b) Sewage Disposal

Difficulties continued to be experienced on several housing developments where planning permission had been given despite the absence of a main sewer and the unsatisfactory drainage capacity of the soil. Mulbarton, Swardeston, Newton Flotman, Swainsthorpe and Barford were particularly troublesome and it was fortunate that the sewer was under construction or approaching that point in these parishes. It seems clear, with hindsight, that the planning authority must give due consideration to the public health aspects of every proposal.

#### (c) Water Supply

It is understood that the Swainsthorpe - Newton Flotman link main will not be in service until 1968 when the new Colney bore



will feed Hethersett tower. It is therefore necessary to continue putting raw water into supply from the Newton Flotman bore.

In December 1965 you very wisely resolved to ask Norwich City Council to reconsider its decision not to undertake fluoridation of its water. The decision was not, however, reversed although, in the course of 1966, a number of authorities, including Great Yarmouth, did decide on fluoridation. Part of your supply is from the Wymondham U.D.C. bores at Wicklewood and that authority asked the County Council to use its powers to enable Wymondham to add fluoride. The County voted against fluoridation and the matter rests thus for the present. Meantime unnecessary dental decay continues in our children.

(d) Food Hygiene

Standards of food hygiene were generally satisfactory although there is still room for improvement and, no doubt, improvement will occur as modernisation of shops proceeds.

A circular was received from the Ministry of Health during the year concerning hygiene and meat inspection in poultry processing establishments. It is quite impracticable to arrange professional inspection of every carcass - as is the practice with larger animals - and regular visits to the establishments to ensure sound standards of hygiene and to inspect occasional carcasses are all that present circumstances permit.

(e) Public Health Nuisances

It may be of interest to report that during the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government gave its opinion on two aspects of the impingement of housing development on animal husbandry and of subsequent complaint of farmyard nuisance. Firstly, the Ministry considered that there was a case for withholding planning permission to housing development in situations where neighbouring agricultural activity would constitute a nuisance to the new residents. Secondly, it was considered whether, in the event that housing had developed in proximity to a farm, any consequent serious nuisance should be treated as a statutory nuisance and abatement action taken. The Ministry considered that normal action should be taken and it appeared that the fact that the farmer was there first did not provide him with any privilege.

A significant danger to health is caused by the contamination of lay-byes which, with their surrounding area, tend to become used as a public lavatory. The County Council, as Highway Authority, has so far not accepted the principle of building public conveniences at chosen lay-byes because the Ministry of Transport has not yet reached conclusions from its trunk roads pilot scheme. The problem is a



difficult one. The responsibility of the public health authority is to prevent a threat to health and not to provide lavatory accommodation for road users who are already catered for by garages and public houses. Public conveniences will only achieve this if they are proof against vandals and those of insanitary habits. The results of the Ministry experiment will indicate whether this is possible. Meantime it will be helpful if any new lay-byes are sited in open country and not, as is sometimes the case, adjacent to woodland cover.

The wet year was favourable to rat increase and they caused widespread nuisance. The rat-catcher dealt with all the complaints received in the office but it is clearly impossible for one man to exert a really significant influence on the natural increase and decrease of the animal throughout an area the size of Forehoe and Henstead. Effective rat control would be achieved either by a major official campaign on the lines of the anti-coypu effort, or by persuading each farmer and householder to take personal action. A major campaign would not be economically possible for a district council and, in any case, it would be fruitless to mount such a campaign unless neighbouring authorities were doing likewise. From this point of view it may be thought that the 1949 Pests Act, which transferred responsibility for rodent control from county to district, was not a helpful measure. With regard to widespread action by the public, one of the principal difficulties is the frustration of the individual who clears his own rats only to be re-infested from neighbouring property. A local authority should do all it can to encourage individual effort and it may be that statutory action should be taken a little more often than is usually the case. Warfarin remains the rodenticide of choice and is efficient when properly used. Reports were published during the year of Warfarin resistant rats on the Welsh border and the failure of faulty baiting technique has since been blamed on 'resistance' wherever it has occurred. In fact no Warfarin resistant rat has been found in East Anglia.

(f) The Royal Norfolk Show

The public health aspects of the 1966 Show presented no problem and nothing untoward occurred. A degree of inadequacy in the arrangements for litter disposal gave offence to the eye towards the end of the second day but this presented no real threat to the public health.

COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES (See Tables 22 to 25)

The various official and voluntary agencies providing welfare services under the National Health Service and National Assistance Acts continued their excellent work in 1966.

The Home Help Service continued to expand and this undoubtedly enables many elderly people to continue in their own homes

rather than to go into county accommodation when they begin to have difficulty in looking after themselves. It is excellent that Forehoe and Henstead has a scheme to provide its first grouped home for the elderly at Trowse since this will enable the residents (who will live in their separate centrally heated dwellings but who will have the comfort of immediate aid if they need it) to hold on to their independence for so long as they may wish to. The Meals-on-Wheels service operated by the W.R.V.S. also plays a most important part in caring for the welfare of the elderly and it was available in 14 parishes during the year. The Old Peoples' Clubs do most valuable work in countering the common loneliness of age and a new club was opened at Ashwellthorpe to serve the two parishes of Wreningham and Ashwellthorpe. Unfortunately, the club at Wicklewood was closed because of poor attendance.

The Committee of the Norfolk Association for the Care of the Physically Handicapped continued its work, as did the agencies responsible for the welfare of the mentally ill and the mentally handicapped. The social centres for subnormal adolescents and adults at Spooner Row and Woodton filled a vital need in helping these people to feel wanted and part of the community. The public attitude to mental disorder has changed greatly in recent years but there is still much room for more humanity and the social centres do make for a better understanding.

The problem of hypothermia in the elderly remained in mind and with the onset of colder weather a leaflet was sent out to home helps and others which explained the danger; how it is prevented, recognized and treated. At the same time low reading clinical thermometers were made available to nurses so that suspected low body temperatures could be confirmed and minimum reading thermometers were also made available so that lowest bedroom temperatures could be recorded. Since the winter proved mild there was fortunately little evidence of hypothermia but the arrangements will prove their value in due course. It would seem very desirable that the 91 bungalows for the elderly (See Table 21) should be insulated in the roof space.

## CONCLUSION

I have no doubt that my predecessor would wish to join with me in thanking the Chairman of Council and the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their encouragement and support throughout the year and for the warm welcome that has been extended to me.

I would like also to thank my colleagues at Ber Street  
and at the Aspland Road office for their ready co-operation.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant

D. F. Hadman

Ber House,  
158 Ber Street,  
NORWICH,  
NOR 56B

FOREHOE AND HENSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL 1966

Table 1 GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	69,939
Estimated Resident Population	30,390
Number of inhabited houses	9,950
Rateable Value	£776,613
Sum Produced by a Penny Rate	£3,416

Table 2 LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	250	239	489
Illegitimate	12	11	23
Totals	262	250	512

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Resident Population - 16.8

Table 3 STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	9	7	16
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Totals	10	7	17

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of Total Births - 32.0



Table 4 TOTAL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Live	262	250	512
Still	10	7	17

Table 5 INFANT DEATHS

(a) Infant Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 year)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	4	3	7

Infant Mortality Rates :

Total - 13.7 (per 1,000 live births)  
 Legitimate - 14.3 (per 1,000 live births)  
 Illegitimate - 0.0 (per 1,000 illegitimate births)

(b) Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants during the first four weeks)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) - 5.9

(c) Early Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 week)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) - 3.9

(d) Perinatal Mortality (Still births and deaths under 1 week)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	10	8	18
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Perinatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) - 35.9

Table 6 ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

Males - 12. Females - 11. Total = 23 (4.5% of total live births)

Table 7 MATERNAL DEATHS (Including abortion) - Nil.

Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) - 0.0

Table 8 DEATHS (All ages)

Males	Females	Total
172	183	355

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 of Estimated Resident Population) - 11.7

Table 9 CAUSE OF STILLBIRTHS

Cause	Males	Females	Total
Congenital malformation			
- anencephaly	-	3	3
- spina bifida	1	-	1
Accidental haemorrhage	2	2	4
(twins)			
Placental Insufficiency	2	1	3
Toxaemia	2	-	2
Asphyxia (cord round neck)	-	1	1
Unknown	2	1	3
Totals :	9	8	17

Table 10 CAUSE OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

Cause	Males	Females	Total
Broncho-pneumonia	2	-	2
Broncho-pneumonia and mongolism	1	1	2
Prematurity	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations			
- anencephaly	-	1	1
- congenital heart disease	-	1	1
Totals	4	3	7

Table 11 NOTIFICATION OF DEATHS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR  
(According to Age Groups)

	Males	Females	Total
Under 4 weeks	2	1	3
Under 1 year	2	2	4
1 and under 5	-	2	2
5 " " 15	1	1	2
15 " " 25	2	2	4
25 " " 35	1	2	3
35 " " 45	3	2	5
45 " " 55	12	5	17
55 " " 65	28	17	45
65 " " 75	32	37	69
75 and over	89	112	201
Totals	172	183	355



Table 12 CAUSE OF DEATHS (Registrar-General)

Cause	Males	Females	Total
3. Syphilitic disease	1	1	2
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	4	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	1	9
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	6	6
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	19	34
16. Diabetes	3	4	7
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	27	33	60
18. Coronary disease, angina	34	19	53
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1
20. Other heart diseases	28	36	64
21. Other circulatory diseases	7	16	23
22. Influenza	2	-	2
23. Pneumonia	16	10	26
24. Bronchitis	7	4	11
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2	3
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	3	5
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-	4
31. Congenital Malformations	-	2	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	11	18
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	1	5
34. All other accidents	1	5	6
35. Suicide	1	4	5
Totals	172	183	355

Table 13 SUMMARY OF BIRTHS AND DEATH RATES

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Live Births (per 1,000 pop.)	(370)	(394)	(436)	(453)	(512)	(579)	(512)
Forehoe and Henstead R.D.	14.7	14.1	15.9	16.1	17.9	19.3	16.8
Area 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	15.8
England and Wales	17.1	17.4	18.0	18.2	18.4	18.1	17.7
Still Births (per 1,000 total births)	(8)	(7)	(8)	(14)	(6)	(5)	(17)
Forehoe and Henstead R.D.	21.1	17.5	16.2	29.9	11.5	8.5	32.0
Area 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	24.2
England and Wales	19.7	18.7	18.1	17.2	16.3	15.7	15.4
Crude Deaths (per 1,000 pop.)	(316)	(388)	(367)	(419)	(376)	(383)	(355)
Forehoe and Henstead	12.5	10.1	13.4	10.5	13.1	12.7	11.7
Area 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.8
England and Wales	11.5	12.0	11.5	12.2	11.3	11.5	11.7
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	(6)	(9)	(7)	(12)	(10)	(6)	(7)
Forehoe and Henstead R.D.	16.2	22.8	16.0	26.4	19.5	13.6	13.7
Area 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.2
England and Wales	21.7	21.4	21.4	20.9	19.9	19.0	18.9

NOTE: 1. Figures in brackets are the actual numbers for Forehoe and Henstead R.D.

2. Area 5 comprises Depwade, Forehoe & Henstead and Loddon R.D.'s and Diss and Wymondham U.D.'s.

Table 14 CANCER DEATHS DURING LAST FIVE YEARS -  
Forehoe and Henstead R.D.

Year		Male			Female	
	Deaths from all Causes	Total Deaths from Cancer	Deaths from Cancer of Lung	Deaths from all Causes	Total Deaths from Cancer	Deaths from Cancer of Lung
1966	172	25	8	183	30	1
1965	159	24	8	224	34	3
1964	188	41	15	188	27	1
1963	210	24	7	209	22	1
1962	169	26	6	198	31	3
Totals	898	140	44	1002	144	9

Table 15 NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
(According to Age Groups - Forehoe and Henstead R.D.)

	Under 1	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	Over 25	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	4	11	-	-	15
Measles	7	120	134	4	1	266
Whooping Cough	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	1	5	2	8	16
Jaundice	-	1	1	1	1	4
Food Poisoning	-	1	-	-	-	1
S.Dysentery	-	7	20	3	7	37
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	3	4
Tuberculosis, Other forms	-	-	1	-	1	2
Totals	7	135	172	11	21	346

Table 16 NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING LAST  
FIVE YEARS - Forehoe and Henstead R.D.

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Scarlet Fever	16	46	12	15	15
Measles	26	504	165	106	266
Whooping Cough	9	9	18	3	1
Pneumonia	33	32	20	22	16
Infective Jaundice	17	3	4	-	4
Erysipelas	3	9	5	1	-
Dysentery(Sonne)	3	25	1	2	37
Food Poisoning	-	1	3	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	1	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	2	-	-
Tuberculosis,pulmonary	6	4	3	7	4
Tuberculosis, other forms	1	2	1	2	2
Totals	116	635	235	159	346



Table 17 BCG VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

This is offered to all school children at the age of 13 years who do not react to the tuberculin skin test. The number of skin tests and subsequent BCG vaccinations in Forehoe and Henstead schools in the last five years is recorded.

	Year	% Accepted	Skin Tested	% Positive	Given BCG
Wymondham College	1966	77	108	35	68
	1965	72	120	29	81
	1964	82	182	25	128
	1963	79	86	35	41
	1962	69	114	26	81
County Grammar, Wymondham	1966	67	60	13	51
	1965	70	54	15	41
	1964	59	41	2	38
	1963	67	19	21	15
	1962	76	37	14	30
Costessey Secondary Modern	1966	81	75	5	68
	1965	67	49	0	43
	1964	72	88	5	84
	1963	63	96	22	75
	1962	47	70	26	45
Framingham Earl Secondary Modern	1966	86	58	5	55
	1965	85	43	19	35
	1964	69	39	8	36
	1963	72	54	17	45
	1962	86	68	7	53

Table 18 NEW BUILDING

Houses erected in 1966		
By Council		30
By Private Building		365
		<hr/>
		395
		<hr/>
Under construction at end of 1966		
By Council		10
By Private Building		282
		<hr/>
		292
		<hr/>
Private Building during last 5 years		
1966	1965	1964 1963 1962 1961
365	403	305 322 205 237

Table 19 COUNCIL HOUSING AND THE WAITING LIST

Waiting List	1966	(1965)
No. of applicants at 31st. December, 1966	337	(410)
Analysis of Waiting List		
Small unit families	280	(333)
Large unit families	57	( 77)
<u>Note:</u> Small unit families are those suitable for 1 or 2 bedroomed dwellings and consist largely of married couples with 1 child or 2 children of the same sex. Large unit families mainly represent those with more than 2 children over the age of 8 of opposite sex.		
Local Authority Houses		
Position at 31st. December, 1966		
Pre-war	878	(877)
Post-war	1216	(1189)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2094	( 2066)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Table 20 DATA ON COUNCIL HOUSE IMPROVEMENT

Total number of pre-war houses	875
Number with complete amenities	269 (86 completed in 1965)
Number without hot water systems	56
Number being modernised	64
Number being planned	40
	<hr/> 429 <hr/>
Total number of houses in which modernisation is neither completed, in process, or planned.	446

N.B. All Council houses have water laid on, a sink indoors and an electricity supply.

Table 21 DATA ON COUNCIL OWNED BUNGALOWS FOR THE ELDERLY  
AS AT 31.12.66

Types	1 bedroom	60
	2 bedrooms	31
		<hr/> 91 <hr/>
	Number modernised	50
	Number where modernisation in progress	21
	Number being planned	12
	Number awaiting sewer	8
		<hr/> 91 <hr/>



Table 22

## DETAILS OF OLD PEOPLE'S CLUBS

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Meeting Place</u>	<u>Day and Time of Meeting</u>
Barnham Broom	Village Hall	Tuesday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Bawburgh	Village Hall	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Braconash	Reading Room	Tuesday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Colton	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
New Costessey	Scouts Hall	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Old Costessey	Parish Room	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Deopham	Church Room	Tuesday 2.15 - 4.30 p.m.
Easton	Village Hall	Wednesday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Hethersett	Methodist Chapel	Wednesday 2.30 - 5.00 p.m.
Hingham	Lincoln Hall	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Marlingford	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Mulbarton	Wingfield Hall	Wednesday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Poringland	Village Hall	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Rockland St.Mary	Margaret Mack Hall	Thursday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Saxlingham Nethergate	Village Hall	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Shotesham	Village Hall	Thursday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Surlingham	Parish Hall	Tuesday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Trowse	Church Room	Thursday 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.
Wreningham(with Ashwellthorpe)	Ashwellthorpe Village Hall	Thursday (alt.) 2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Table 23

## AVAILABILITY OF THE COUNTY WELFARE OFFICERS

Headquarters	:	Local Health Office, Area No. 5, Aspland Road, Riverside Road, Norwich	Daily - 8.45 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Costessey	:	C/O Mr. Cox, 108 Norwich Road	Wednesday - 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon
Hingham	:	C/O Mrs. Rosbrook, Bell Corner	Monday - 2.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.

Table 24 COUNTY COUNCIL CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

<u>Centre</u>	<u>Where Held</u>	<u>Day of Month</u>	
New Costessey	Scouts Hut, Gunton Lane	3rd. Tuesday	)
* New Costessey	Methodist Hall	last Tuesday	)
Old Costessey	Parish Hall	2nd. Tuesday	)
* Cringleford	Patteson Club	3rd. Wednesday	)
Hethersett	Methodist School Room	3rd. Tuesday	) Medical
* Hingham	Lincoln Hall	3rd. Tuesday	) Officer
Morley St. Botolph	Village Hall	last Thursday	) attends
Mulbarton	Wingfield Hall	1st. Wednesday	) regularly
* Poringland	Parish Hall	1st. Tuesday	)
* Stoke Holy Cross	Village Hall	3rd. Tuesday	)
Bawburgh	Village Hall	last Wednesday	)
Kirby Bedon	Parish Room	2nd. Monday	)
Rockland St. Mary	Margaret Mack Hall	last Tuesday	) Medical
Saxlingham Nethergate	Village Hall	2nd. Tuesday	) Officer
Surlingham	Parish Hall	last Thursday	) attends
Shotesham	Trinity Hall	2nd. Wednesday	) occasionally
* Upper Stoke Holy Cross	St. George's Hall	2nd. Thursday	)
Wicklewood	Village Hall	1st. Friday	)

All Centres are held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

\* Indicates that National Welfare Foods are available

Table 25 AVAILABILITY OF NATIONAL WELFARE FOODS

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Addresses at which National Welfare Foods are obtainable (Monday to Friday)</u>
Barford	Mr. Garfitt, Post Office
New Costessey	Mrs. Dynes, Upper Stafford Avenue
Old Costessey	Mrs. Pratt, West End Stores
Hethersett	Mrs. Thraxton, "Thornely", Gt.Melton Road.
Morley	Mr. Ruthven, Post Office
Mulbarton	Miss Middleton, Post Office
Stoke Holy Cross	Mr. Elsey, Post Office

# T H E     A N N U A L     R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ended

31st. December, 1966

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my Annual Report for the year 1966.

## Staff

During the year the following changes in staff took place. Mr. B. M. Baker took up an appointment in Yorkshire in March and his place was taken by Mr. D. O. Harradine who commenced duties on the 22nd. June.

On the office staff, Mrs. D. Doyle replaced Miss J. Cox and the staff was increased by the appointment in July of Mr. D.J.Spencer as Junior Clerk.

## S A N I T A R Y     C I R C U M S T A N C E S     O F     T H E     A R E A

### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Housing	933	Scrap Metal Dealers' Act	20
Public Health Acts	366	Pest Control	11
Water Supplies	129	Factories Act	24
Drainage	130	Animal Boarding Establish-	
Public Cleansing Services	387	ments	8
Infectious Disease	855	Knacker's Yard	4
Slaughterhouses and		Petroleum Acts	96
Meat Inspection	1161	Smoke Nuisances	9
Housing Improvement		Offices, Shops and Railway	
Grants	1395	Premises Act	51
Caravans	174	Anthrax	1
Disinfestations and		Poultry Inspection	12
Disinfections	12	Noise Abatement	9
Food & Drugs Act and Food		Miscellaneous	162
Hygiene Regulations	180		
Cemeteries	61		

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The Summary of Inspections shows that housing, including improvement grants, continues to call for a great deal of time by the department whilst at certain times in the year a large number of visits are necessary in connection with sudden outbreaks of Sonne Dysentery. Meat inspection also entails a great deal of work but it must be remembered that for the past year or two the bulk of this work has been performed by a qualified authorised meat inspector.

Much time is also spent in an advisory capacity as the general public tend to rely upon the health department as the first line of enquiry for almost any matter arising and where there is any doubt as to which particular department is responsible.

#### WATER SUPPLIES

The following samples with conclusions as shown were taken either as the result of complaints or investigations during the course of other duties. No statutory action has been necessary during the year and most of the unsatisfactory supplies have been replaced by connection to the Council's mains. Further details of the general position are given in the Report of the Engineer and Surveyor.

	<u>No. taken</u>	<u>Fit</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Doubtful</u>
Chemical	2	1	1	-
Bacteriological	47	18	23	6
	<u>49</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>6</u>

#### SEWERAGE, SEWER DITCHES AND CESSPOOL EMPTYING

My only comment under this heading is to repeat the urgent need for sewerage certain parishes where serious nuisances continue to exist in connection with cesspools and septic tank drainage systems. During the year a partial free emptying scheme was agreed for properties where frequent emptying of drainage systems was necessary, but although this provided some financial relief a number of drainage systems continued to overflow.

Other than the piping of a sewer ditch at Wrenningham no work was considered necessary to sewer ditches in general in the district.

Contrary to expectations, following the 1965 figures there was a substantial increase in the number of visits and loads removed from all types of dwellings by the cesspool emptiers. The figures given show that over 600 more visits were made and over 1,000 additional loads of sewage removed. The main reason is that the position in certain parishes, where private development is taking place on sites which, without mains drainage, are quite unsuitable for the purpose, has rapidly



become worse, especially as the year in general was a wet one. It would, therefore, appear that several more years must elapse before any confident forecast can be made as to the ultimate requirements in order to provide a satisfactory cesspool emptying service.

The cost of disposal has also risen, due to the fact that only a small proportion of the loads removed can now be disposed of on agricultural land, hence the necessity to make long hauls for disposal into public sewers. It was also found necessary on a number of occasions to work the service outside normal hours, thereby increasing labour costs considerably.

An arrangement was however made with the Norfolk Education Committee to meet some of these additional labour costs where it was necessary to carry out cesspool emptying at schools and school canteens outside normal school hours.

The following are the details of cesspool emptying work carried out during the year:-

		<u>Visits</u>	<u>Loads Removed</u>
(a)	Private :	2424	3425
(b)	Council Estates and Sewage Plants :	802	2149
(c)	Outside District :	95	113
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		3321	5687
		<hr/>	<hr/>

#### NIGHT SOIL COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

There was no change in the arrangements for the collection and disposal of night soil from properties which still lack a W.C.

The two vehicles with two men each cover the whole of the district on a weekly basis and disposal normally takes place by discharge into public sewers. It is expected that within the next year or two the organisation can be reduced following the completion of further sewerage schemes.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

During the month of August a complete reorganisation of the Refuse Collection Service was commenced and by September 1st, a weekly collection had been put into operation throughout the whole area.

The present system is a back door 'skep' collection and whilst this type of collection is not considered by any means to be the ideal,

it is certainly a great improvement on the 'kerb-side' method. Taking the district as a whole comparatively few complaints were received although there had been a general call for more frequent collections and the introduction of a weekly service met what had become an urgent need. The volume of refuse collected, however, continues to increase and all the refuse collection vehicles were fully employed every week.

The present fleet of 6 vehicles comprises two large and one smaller type 'continuous' rear-loaders, two 'dual-tip' vehicles and one of the old 'moving-floor' type. It is anticipated that an additional vehicle will be necessary next year to cope with the ever increasing number of new properties which in effect adds between 400 and 500 to the district total and which in turn necessitates additional labour.

For financial reasons a paper sack collection system was further postponed. I must again emphasise that some means must be found to overcome the increasing difficulty in obtaining suitable labour.

This district is adjacent to a small part of the broads area and it is fortunate that a special collection is only necessary at three main mooring points.

Disposal takes place at three main tips, two of which are under the control of the Council, the other being a general tip for all and sundry. From time to time one or two small pits are filled in at the request of local farmers.

The main theme of 'controlled' tipping is to reclaim the land and a good example of this can be seen in the completed site at Cringleford. There is no doubt however that eventually any method of tipping crude refuse will be considered out of date and the more hygienic methods of disposal such as incineration, pulverisation and composting will be the 'order of the day'. These are very costly, hence the tendency to retain the most economical method of dealing with crude refuse by 'controlled' tipping.

#### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council employs one vermin destroyer who is fully occupied in dealing with complaints and as much survey work as time will permit. He is not able to extend the scope of his operations to cover agricultural properties except in cases where certain types of business premises are included in an agricultural or horticultural holding.

It has been the general opinion that 1966 was a good year for rats and therefore a bad year for infestation. It may be suggested, when comparing previous years' figures for this district, that those given below show that there was in fact an improvement as fewer properties had to be actually treated against infestation. I think it should be borne in mind that the activities of a single operator are restricted to the type and scale of infestation he finds at any particular property, and it is quite possible that although he actually treated fewer properties than in 1965, the total infestation may quite easily have been much higher. I still feel that a two-man team is necessary for any large Rural District to tie in all types of properties and thereby obtain the best overall results.

Number of properties inspected:

(a)	by notification	-	525
(b)	by survey	-	3230

Number of properties treated	-	836
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## HOUSING

When a public health officer talks of housing the subject uppermost in his mind is slum clearance and despite all the efforts which have been made in the country as a whole since the war years we still hear of many areas where the problem is still one of major importance. In fact, we are told that in many of the industrial areas there are more slums now than there were ten years ago. It seems to me quite useless for Ministry after Ministry to preach slum clearance whilst at the same time the provision of new houses as replacements falls further and further behind. The suggestion that many dwellings can be saved and brought up to standard, perhaps for a limited period only, does not help very much and as the procedure is cumbersome, there is antagonism to such schemes by many Councils and endless time is wasted in negotiations by compulsory purchase orders, etc. What is the answer? Surely a start must be the provision of alternative accommodation and I cannot see much progress being made until the subject of slum clearance and rehousing is dealt with at Ministry level as a completely separate section of housing with a completely new outlook centred on a greatly increased production of new dwellings, for the replacement of slums, entirely separate from all other building programmes. It should have a priority similar to that given to vital operations in the war years even at the expense of a reduction in what is termed "luxury building". One is also tempted to think in terms of how many new dwellings can be built for the replacement of slums if one less super jet bomber were produced.

I have expressed my own personal views and to get back to the position in this district and perhaps in rural districts as a whole, I would say that future slum clearance is not such a worrying thought.

Our efforts in the next few years should be concentrated on the provision of sufficient dwellings to rehouse the large number of families who occupy dwellings that are already the subject of orders under the slum clearance sections of the Housing Act. It would appear that the rate of casual vacancies in existing Council Houses has reached an all time low and may not improve in the foreseeable future. This means the rehousing of tenants of unfit dwellings in this way cannot be relied upon or considered the satisfactory answer to the problem. Figures given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health show that since 1954 some 326 properties have been dealt with and have been the subject of either Demolition Orders or Undertakings. When it is realised that 134 confirmed unfit dwellings are still occupied, the problem of rehousing these families in addition to those from any further houses condemned shows up in its true magnitude.

During the year 25 properties became the subject of either Demolition Orders or Undertakings not to relet.

One must not however forget the other side of the housing problem, namely, the continuous increase in the number of dwellings improved and although a look at the following table of improvement grants shows a decrease in the number of dwellings improved by means of grants, I consider it a satisfactory year when compared with the country as a whole. When one adds to these figures quite a substantial number of dwellings which are known to have been modernised without the aid of grants, there has been quite a substantial rise in the percentage of houses in the district which have the recognised modern amenities.

Little progress has been made in connection with the proposals for 'Improvement Areas' to be dealt with under the compulsory powers of the Housing Act, 1964 and this apparently is quite general in the country as a whole. It would appear that the procedure is difficult and at the moment many Councils no doubt feel that owners already carry a heavy burden of responsibility to keep their properties in a reasonable state of repair without having to provide modern amenities.

The following gives details of applications received:-

	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Discretionary</u>	<u>Total</u>
Applications received	38	24	62
Units concerned	38	27	65
Applications approved	35	23	58
Units concerned	35	20	61
Owner/occupier dwellings	26	14	40
Dwellings let	9	12	21
Total amount of grants approved	£7,747	£9,931	£17,678
Discretionary grants refused:	1		
Standard grants refused :	1		



## CARAVAN SITES & CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

The position in the district as a whole has remained fairly static but problems may arise in formulating policy in relation to the remaining unauthorised sites, the itinerant dealer, and the proposed action by the County Council under Planning for closing certain other existing sites.

The Council's Tower Hill Caravan Park at Costessey has, in my opinion, been a complete success and is providing good accommodation for many families who would otherwise still be occupying unsatisfactory sites. At the end of the year it appeared that the demand was falling as far as a waiting list of families already living in caravans in the district was concerned. Great thought is therefore necessary before a final decision is made as to the proposed enlargement of the existing Tower Hill Site. The result of the County Council's proposed action under the Planning Regulations will, of course, have a great bearing on this decision.

The itinerant dealer still creates a serious problem as included under this heading are those caravan dwellers who reside more or less permanently on a site for which in most cases they have no approval. The Council have already agreed to provide a separate site for this type of caravan dweller but at the end of the year a suitable site had not been found.

There are now 41 licensed or approved sites in the district and these comprise five sites in various parishes with numbers ranging from 6 to 16 standings for letting whilst the remainder are single sites which are needed only until such time as a permanent dwelling is available.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number of visits made to premises show a slight increase on the previous year's total.

In most of the premises inspected alterations or improvements were required but I am pleased to say that no statutory action has been necessary.

Inadequately guarded machinery was again noted as one of the principal infringements although no accidents were reported.

The following table is an abstract of the details of the Annual Report submitted to the Ministry:-

## Registration and General Inspections

<u>Class of Premises</u>	<u>Premises Registered during year</u>	<u>Total number Registered</u>	<u>Registered Premises receiving general inspection</u>
Offices	-	8	1
Retail shops	1	35	10
Wholesale shops and warehouses	-	3	-
Catering establishments open to public	-	1	-
Fuel storage depots	-	4	1

### Inspection of registered premises

Visits of all kinds by Inspectors 35

### FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

#### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

180 visits of food premises were made during the year. No statutory action was necessary and the general standard remained satisfactory.

### ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW

Following the usual practice a letter from the Medical Officer of Health sought the co-operation of Standholders and Caterers in the matter of food hygiene, reminded them of their responsibilities under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960 and gave details of facilities which were available on the Showground. During the Show every Stand was visited, inspections were made wherever catering was carried out and food samples taken for examination.

The standard of hygiene has improved over the years due, no doubt, to the Medical Officer's pre-show campaign and the thorough inspections carried out during the Show and this year the catering generally was very satisfactory.

The prompt removal of litter from the Showground is often a difficult and unrewarding task and this year the quantity involved was particularly heavy. Any criticism however should be levelled at the public themselves who chose to ignore the receptacles which were available for their use.

FACTORIES ACT, 1948 and 1961 The following tabulated details are in accordance with the Return required by the Ministry:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	8	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	132	62	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	2	2	-	-
Totals :	142	70	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Sanitary Conveniences, Section 7

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
(a) Insufficient	2	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
	6	6

Outwork

<u>Nature of work</u>	<u>No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110</u>	<u>No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises</u>
Wearing apparel - making etc.	11	-
Brush making	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas Crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	3	-
	14	-

## PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

During the year 125 licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit or petroleum mixtures. In all cases of new licences works were carried out to a standard in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations, as considered appropriate to the type of premises, i.e., small garages or single private installations.

Two premises were also licensed for the storage of materials used in manufacturing processes.

An incident of rather an alarming nature occurred at one of the large bulk storage depots in the district and adjacent to the Norwich boundary. A report was received that a serious leakage had occurred and it was immediately necessary for the area concerned to be cordoned off with police and fire service patrols on duty. As the Petroleum Officer responsible for licensing, it was necessary for me to inspect the site in company with the firm's representative and approval was given to the measures that were taken.

## MEAT INSPECTION

There are 4 licensed slaughterhouses in the district, one in Costessey, one in Hethersett and two in Swardeston. Every day during which slaughtering was carried out the premises were under our supervision and the normal yearly inspection by an officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was made. The premises in the main were quite satisfactory and no serious complaints or major alterations were necessary. The Council's authorised Meat Inspector carried out the majority of inspections and examination of carcasses and the Council's Public Health Inspectors assisted where necessary and also formed part of the weekend rota.

During the latter part of the year the Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1966 came into force relating particularly to hours of slaughter, and agreement was reached with the butchers concerned for a discontinuance of Sunday killing and a limited amount of killing on Saturdays, together with a reduction in the total hours of slaughter on other days of the week. Agreement was reached whereby emergency slaughtering and exceptional killing requirements would be dealt with by negotiation. At the end of the year after only a few weeks experience of the new slaughtering hours, it did appear that no serious difficulties would arise.

A glance at the figures which are set out in accordance with the Annual Return to the Ministry shows an increase of over 10,000 in the total number of animals slaughtered and inspected, due almost wholly to a similar increase in the number of pigs slaughtered. Statistics of meat condemned follows a similar pattern to previous years, although there was quite a large increase in the number of calves where it was found necessary



to condemn some part or organ and also in the total number of sheep and pigs condemned, although this was partly due to the increase in the total number of those slaughtered.

The incidence of tuberculosis was almost negligible and where it did occur it was confined wholly to pig carcasses and then was not serious enough for any whole carcass to be condemned.

There was also a decrease in the total number of carcasses found to be affected with cysticercus bovis.

The figures for meat condemned show an increased tonnage but in my opinion was normal for the total number of animals slaughtered. All condemned meat was disposed of satisfactorily at an authorised disposal plant except for a small quantity which was satisfactorily disposed of on the premises concerned.

#### SUMMARY OF ANIMALS KILLED AND INSPECTED AND DETAILS OF CARCASSES AND PARTS CONDEMNED

<u>Cattle</u> (excluding cows)	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	-	<u>Total</u>
3397	1256	97	1874	39,040		45,664

#### STATISTICS OF MEAT CONDEMNED AS REQUIRED BY THE MINISTRY

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep &amp; Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
All diseases Ex. Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	5	1	1	12	60
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1068	472	36	328	4760
Percentage of number inspected, affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	31.11%	37.73%	37.11%	17.50%	12.19%

#### Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	438
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.12%

Cysticercosis

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep &amp; Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	21	6	-	14	-
Carcases treated by refrigeration	21	6	-	-	-
Generalised and condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Details of meat condemned:BEEF

1 Steer	(Emaciation)	1 Heifer	(Septicaemia)
1 Steer	(Septic Pneumonia)	1 Heifer	(Emaciation)
1 Steer	(Septicaemia)	1 Cow	(Fevered)

VEAL

1 Calf	(Septic Peritonitis)
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PORK

22 Pigs	(Pyæmia)	5 Sows	(Emaciation)
5 Pigs	(Emaciation)	5 Sows	(Septicaemia)
3 Pigs	(Fevered)	2 Sows	(Oedema)
3 Pigs	(Acute septic peritonitis)	2 Sows	(Septic pneumonia/pleurisy)
3 Pigs	(Oedema)	2 Sows	(Fevered)
2 Pigs	(Moribund)	1 Sow	(Multiple Abscesses)
2 Pigs	(Pneumonia)	1 Boar	(Emaciation)
1 Pig	(Jaundice)		
1 Pig	(Prematurity)		

MUTTON

9 Sheep	(Emaciation)
2 Sheep	(Septic Pneumonia)
1 Sheep	(Malignant Tumours)

		<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>
Total weight of carcasses condemned	:	4	13	0	23
Total weight of parts of carcasses and offal condemned	:	27	13	3	9
Total weight condemned	:	32	7	0	4

## CENTRAL DEPOT

The Central Depot at Ketteringham serves the three departments of the Council responsible for work in connection with water, sewerage, public cleansing and estate management.

The management of the sections common to all departments, the general supervision for maintenance and repair, together with the maintenance and repair of all Council vehicles and the issue of supplies, remain the responsibility of the Chief Public Health Inspector, under whose jurisdiction the Public Health Foreman acts.

During the year the maintenance and repair of vehicles continued smoothly and the two motor mechanics were able to cope satisfactorily with practically all the repairs including major jobs, body repairs and re-spraying. No large scale general maintenance of depot buildings was necessary but it is anticipated that within the next year or so this must be included in the estimates.

## GENERAL

In addition to the before mentioned matters for which the department is responsible, the following were also dealt with:-

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963. 7 premises were licensed and were satisfactorily kept during the year.

Scrap Metal Dealers' Act, 1964. 12 persons were registered for the purpose of carrying on business in the area.

Cemeteries. The Council is responsible for the management of the cemeteries at Trowse Newton and Hingham and all matters relating to general maintenance and grave digging were supervised by the Public Health Department.

Knacker's Yard. One knacker's yard remained in use in the district and this was licensed in accordance with the legislation and was satisfactorily conducted.

## CONCLUSION

An Annual Report, to a large extent, must be a repetition of previous years as one cannot get away from all the routine jobs which must be carried out irrespective of any emergency or special matter which may arise. One does tend to assume that all these routine matters are of little interest to the members of the Council and one makes a resolution each year that next year's report must contain something in the nature of a 'bombshell'. I am afraid that once more I must resign myself to the fact that during the year nothing of a startling nature has occurred in the district. This leaves me further to wonder whether a longer period should elapse between reports; it certainly would provide a clearer picture of progress, or the reverse.

I cannot let the year pass without referring to the retirement of Dr. Irene Green, your Medical Officer of Health until September, and to record on behalf of my staff and myself our good wishes for a long and happy retirement. At the same time we extend a welcome to Dr. D. F. Hadman who has now added Forehoe and Henstead to his area of control, and we look forward to a long and happy association.

I also wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and encouragement during the year and finally to my staff for their ready co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

GEOFFREY A. J. BROWNE, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector



# R E P O R T

## OF THE

ENGINEER & SURVEYOR

FOR THE YEAR 1966

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### W A T E R       S U P P L Y

Every parish in the District is served by public water mains. 26 parishes are within the Statutory Water Supply Area of the Norwich Corporation. The Council's own supply area comprises the remaining 16 parishes.

Water is obtained from the Norwich Corporation at three bulk supply points for distribution through the Council's own mains in Barford, Wrampingham, Marlingford, Barnham Broom, part of Runhall, Braconash, Wreningham, part of Saxlingham Nethergate and Shotesham. Bulk supplies are also obtained from the Mitford & Launditch Rural District Council for part of Runhall, from the Wayland Rural District Council for small parts of Hingham and Morley and from the Wicklewood Waterworks of the Wymondham Urban District Council for distribution at Wicklewood, Deopham, Morley and Hingham.

The Council own two small water headworks, one at Kimberley which supplies that parish and another at Newton Flotman which supplies Newton Flotman, Flordon and part of Saxlingham.

The estimated population in the Council's Water Area is 7750.

#### WATER MAINS EXTENSIONS

During the year extensions of water mains comprising some 890 yards of 3" pipes were put in to serve new private housing sites at Newton Flotman, Hingham and Barnham Broom.

#### NEWTON FLOTMAN, FLORDON AND SAXLINGHAM THORPE WATER SUPPLY

This area is supplied with water derived from the Council's Newton Flotman Borehole. The arrangement is an interim one pending the availability of a supply in bulk from the mains of the Norwich Corporation at Swainsthorpe. It seems clear that if the present rate

of development and increase in water consumption continues, the demand will before long outstrip the known yield of the borehole. A Scheme was therefore prepared for the construction of a link main between Swainsthorpe and Newton Flotman so that when bulk supplies become available the water can be delivered into the Newton Flotman mains without delay. The bulk main will comprise some 1900 yards of 8" diameter pipes and a tender for its construction has now been accepted by the Council.

## S E W E R A G E

Comprehensive public sewerage systems are now installed at Costessey, Cringleford, Hethersett, Hingham, Poringland (including part of Framingham Earl, part of Caistor St. Edmund and Upper Stoke Holy Cross).

The estimated aggregate population served by sewers is 13,000.

### PORINGLAND SEWERAGE, SECTION 4

This scheme was completed during 1966. It comprised the laying of sewers at Brickle Road and Brickle Loke, Upper Stoke, the construction of the Brickle Road pumping station, the installation of larger capacity pumping machinery at Octagon Farm pumping station, the construction of a new rising main between that pumping station and the gravity sewer at Poringland Five Crossways, and extensions to the sewage disposal works at Dove Lane, Poringland.

### NEWTON FLOTMAN, FLORDON AND SAXLINGHAM SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Work continued throughout 1966 on this scheme and by the end of the year all the sewer laying was completed.

Since the scheme started a considerable amount of residential development, including new Council housing, has taken place at Newton Flotman, and plans have been prepared for sewerage the area involved, the work to be done is an extension to the present contract.

### STOKE HOLY CROSS AND SWAINSTHORPE SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Work started in October on this scheme and good progress has been made in the laying of sewers in Stoke Holy Cross.

### COLNEY SEWERAGE

In the area to the south of B1108 and west of the River Yare at Colney, development has started for the purposes of Research Institutes, which will be associated with the new University of East Anglia.

Three of the Institutes, i.e., the John Innes Institute, the Food Research Institute and the British Sugar Corporation hope to be in occupation in the near future, and at their request and joint expense some 950 yards of 12", 9" and 6" sewers were laid to serve their properties. The sewers discharge via a syphon under the River Yare into the Yare Valley sewer recently constructed by the Norwich Corporation.

#### COSTESSEY SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS

In 1965 a study of the performance of the works showed that the pollution load was particularly heavy and the resultant effluent discharge was at times unsatisfactory.

It is proposed to increase the capacity of the disposal works to deal with the situation, but this proposal is likely to be delayed by the difficulty of acquiring the additional land required. Experiments were therefore carried out to see if re-circulation, i.e., the pumping of a proportion of final effluent back to the works inlet for re-treatment, would improve performance. These showed that re-circulation would, in fact, effect considerable improvement of the final discharge and a re-circulation pump has now been installed to be kept in continuous operation pending permanent extensions to the sewage works.

#### COUNCIL HOUSING SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL

- (a) Hockering Lane, Bawburgh - Extensions to the disposal works have been made in order to deal with increased flow from the housing site.
- (b) The Grove, Shotesham - In addition to the council houses, the works serve the Trinity Hospital group of almshouses. The Mercers Company, the owners, propose to erect a further 21 dwellings on the site and to deal with the flow from these, extensions have been constructed at the disposal works.

#### C O S T E S S E Y      S T R E E T      L I G H T I N G

Schemes have been prepared and contracts let for lighting installations at Farlands Road, Oval Avenue, Oval Road, St. Walstan's Close, Grove Avenue, Three Mile Lane and Breckland Road, these being highways either recently taken over by the County Council or which are about to be made up and taken over by that Authority under their private street works programme.

## NEW BUILDING

This year saw the coming into operation of the Building Regulations, 1965. These apply a single code of building control over the whole country and replace the system whereby each local authority made and administered its own local Building Bye-laws. The new code is much more comprehensive than the old and imposes a system of control which requires more frequent visits of inspection to building sites and has added considerably to the work load in my department.

The pace of work on new building in the district has continued at the high level of recent years, although the number of plans deposited for Town Planning showed a slight decrease, the figures being:-

1965 :      1210                  1966 :      1178

During the year 365 private houses and 30 council houses were completed and at the 31st. December, 282 private and 10 council houses were under construction.

Searches in the Land Charges Register requisitioned under the Land Charges Act, 1925 totalled 990.

13 Appeals were made to the Minister of Housing and Local Government against the Council's refusal of planning permission and were disposed of as follows:-

<u>Proposals</u>	<u>Appeals</u>	<u>Dismissed</u>	<u>Allowed</u>
Residential development	8	8	-
Caravan	1	-	1
Retention of Access	1	-	1
Vehicle breaking	2	2	-
Erection of pig styas	1	1	-

Note: One appeal was dismissed without prejudice to the submission of a new application modifying the extent of the development.

Despite the increase in volume, the work of inspecting and supervising buildings for the purposes of the Byelaws and Building Regulations has proceeded satisfactorily throughout the year. This has been due, in good measure, to the excellent co-operation which has been maintained with building contractors in the district. No infringements of Byelaws or Regulations occurred which could not be satisfactorily remedied by informal action.

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WILLIAM A. JONES, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.

Engineer and Surveyor



# WATER SUPPLY

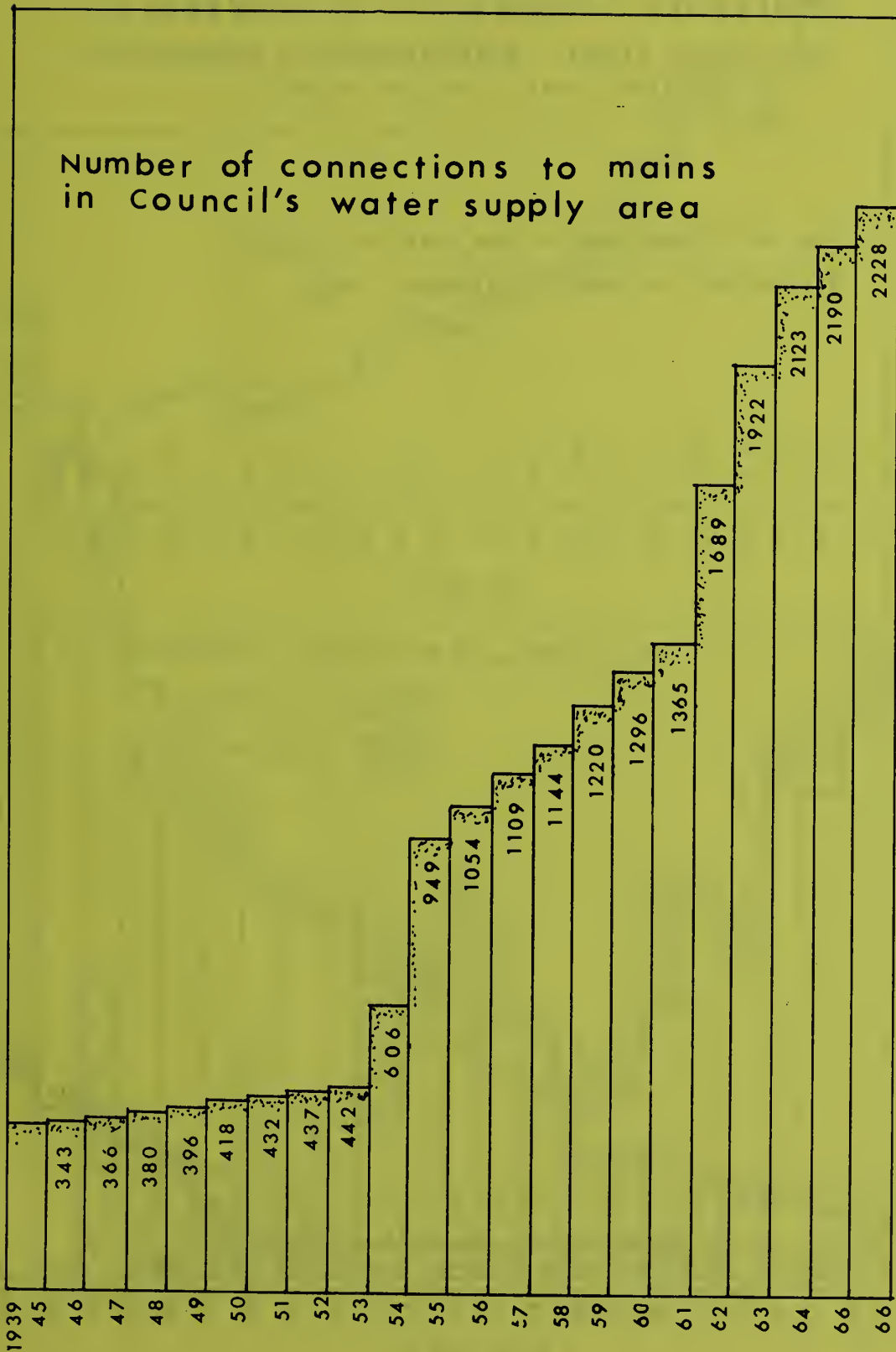


Fig. 1

# PROPERTIES CONNECTED TO SEWERS

(INCLUDING SEWERS DISCHARGING TO COUNCIL  
HOUSING SITE DISPOSAL WORKS)

No. of properties in the district: 10,629

Proportion on main drainage: 44%

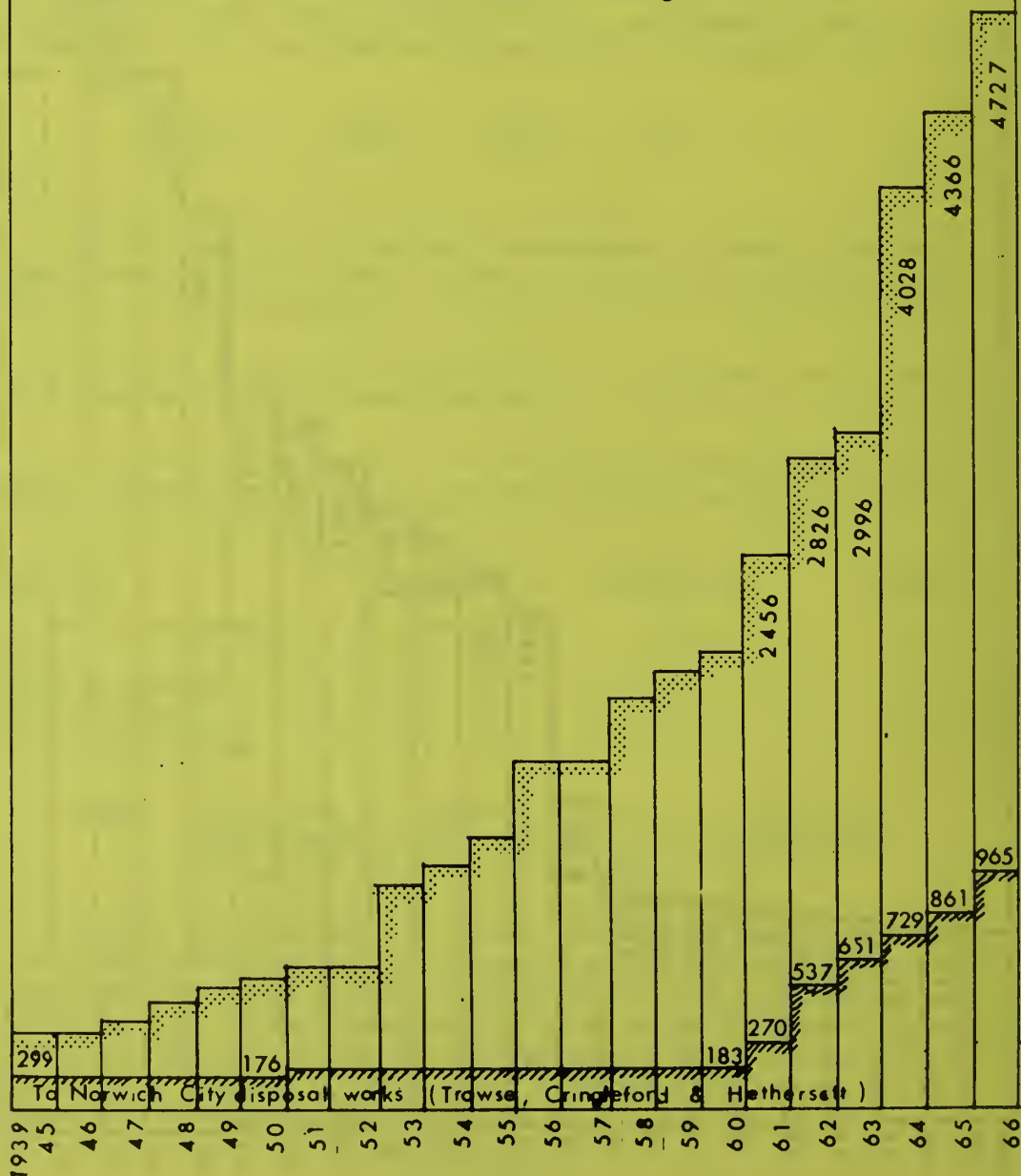


Fig. 2

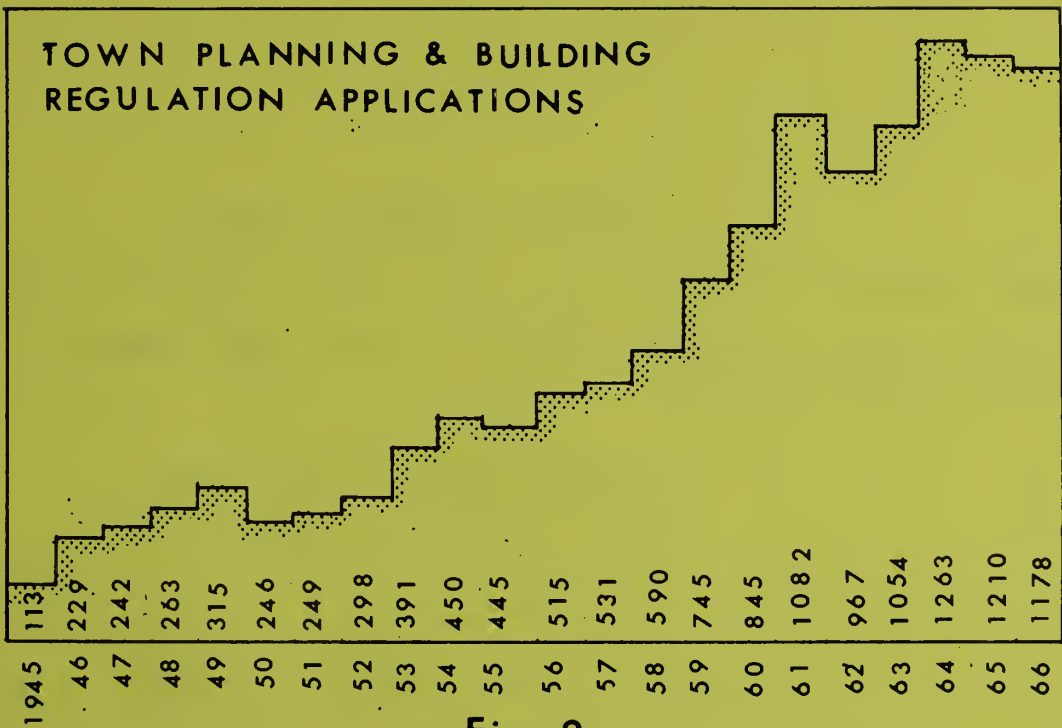


Fig. 3

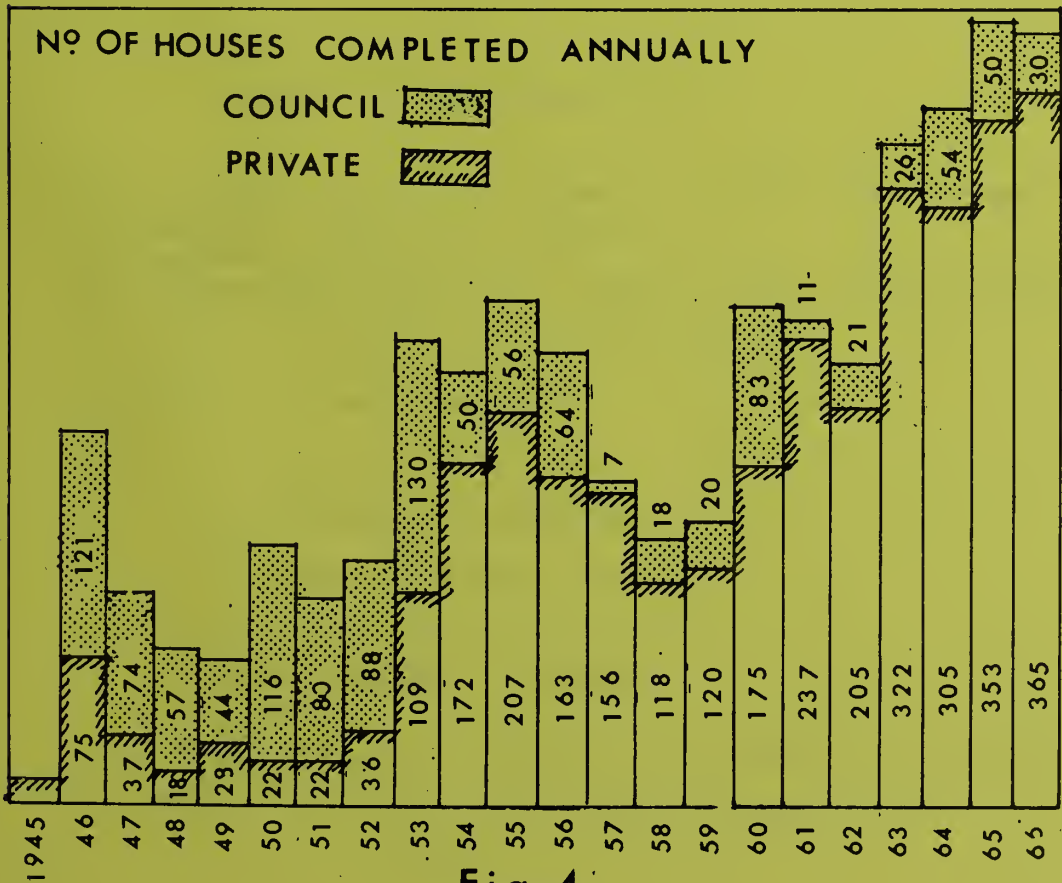


Fig. 4





S T A F F

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Irene B. M. Green, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., (to 30th. September, 1966)

D. F. Hadman, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,  
(from 1st. October, 1966)

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

G. A. J. Browne, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

B. G. B. South, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

B. M. Baker, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., (to 20th. March, 1966)  
R. Stevenson M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,  
F. Douglas M.A.P.H.I.  
D. O. Harradine, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., (from 20th. June, 1966)  
R. Secker, (Student Public Health Inspector)

D. Jonas, (Meat Inspector)

ENGINEER & SURVEYOR

W. A. Jones, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.

DEPUTY ENGINEER & SURVEYOR

F. J. Addis, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H., A.R.I.C.S., (to 12th. June, 1966)  
G. Siree, A.M.I.P.E., (from 22nd. September, 1966)

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